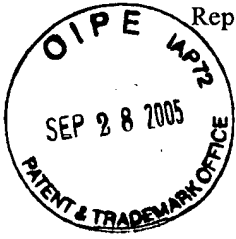


Application No.: 10/697,406
Amendment dated: September 28, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed: May 31, 2005



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 52003218

Application No.: 10/697,406 Confirmation No.: 7204
Inventor(s): Russell W. Guenther et al
Art Unit: 2825
Examiner: SIEK, VUTHE
Invention:

METHOD FOR IMPROVING PERFORMANCE OF CRITICAL PATH IN
FIELD PROGRAMMABLE GATE ARRAYS

Mail Stop Amendment
Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As the present Amendment is presented within one month after the normal response date, a Petition for Extension of Time to Respond is included herewith along with authorization to pay the relevant fee from the Assignee's Deposit Account.

In response to the Office Action mailed May 31, 2005, kindly consider the Remarks/Arguments set forth below and amend the above-identified application in the following manner:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.